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Message Text

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51
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 SAM-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN
EUCOM
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL ADANA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR TU CY GR UK
SUBJ: COMMENTS ON CYPRUS BY PRIMIN ECEVIT

SUMMARY: IN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED HERE SEPTEMBER 23, PRIMIN ECEVIT SAID: (A) GOT WOULD NOT NEGOTIATE WITHOUT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM OF TURKISH CYPRIOT REFUGEES ON BRITISH BASES: (B) TURKS WILL NOT WITHDRAW FROM FAMAGUSTA BUT WILL PERMIT GREEK CYPRIOTS TO USE PORT AND TO RETURN TO SOME BUSINESSES; AND (C) CYPRUS PROBLEM HAD SERIOUS ECONOMIC EFFECTS, BUT TURKEY'S ECONOMY IS BIG ENOUGH NOT TO BE GREATLY AFFECTED. TO QUESTION WHETHER MAINLAND TURKS MIGHT BE SETTLED IN CYPRUS, HE SAID ONLY THAT EFFORT BEING MADE TO GET TURKS WHO HAVE LEFT CYPRUS TO RETURN.
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END SUMMARY.

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1. FOLLOWING ARE PRINCIPAL COMMENTS ON CYPRUS MADE BY PRIMIN ECEVIT IN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN WEEKLY YANKI SEPTEMBER 23:

A. TURKISH CYPRIOTS ON BRITISH BASES: "WE ARE SEEKING THE RIGHT OF FREE MOVEMENT FOR ALL TURKS WHO ARE NOT IN THE TURKISH ZONE. IF WE DO NOT GET RECOGNITION OF THIS RIGHT FOR THE TURKS ON THE BRITISH BASES, HOW WILL WE GET THE GREEK CYPRIOTS TO ACCEPT OUR DEMANDS? WE WILL NOT SIT AT A NEGOTIATING TABLE WITHOUT HAVING SOLVED THE MATTER OF THE REFUGEES ON THE BRITISH BASES. IF WE CANNOT BRING THE TURKS TO THE TURKISH ZONE, WE WILL BE OLBLIGED TO SEND ELEMENTS FROM TURKEY FOR THE SOLUTION OF THE MATTER. WHEREAS, IF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS AND THE BRITISH RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF FREE MOVEMENT FOR THE TURKS IN THEIR ZONES, WE TOO WILL BE ABLE TO DO SOME THINGS..."

B. STATUS OF FAMAGUSTA: "..OUR WITHDRAWING FROM FAMAGUSTA IS NOT A SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION. WE CANNOT WITHDRAW FROM ANY PLACE IN IT. BUT IF THERE IS AN AGREEMENT, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE GREEK CYPRIOTS ALSO TO BENFIT FROM THE PORT. SOME BUSINESSMEN COULD RETURN TO THE CITY AND TAKE CHARGE OF THEIR BUSINESSES. OF COURSE WE HAVE INVITED THE ENGLISH WHO HAVE PLACES OF BUSINESS IN THE ZONE UNDER TURKISH CONTROL. "COME AND YOU CAN TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR BUSINESSES," WE SAID."

C. ECONOMIC EFFECT OF CYPRUS OPERATIONS: "THERE WERE EFFECTS FROM SEVERAL SIDES. FIRST THE MILITARY EXPENSE. THE FIRST OPERATION COST TL 5.5 BILLION. THE SECOND HAS NOT YET BEEN ASSESSED BUT IT COULD BE LIKE THAT. THEN WE FELT THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SIDE OF THE CYPRUS CRISIS WHEN TL 5 BILLION WORTH OF DEPOSITS WERE WITHDRAWN. ON AUGUST 16 EXACTLY TL 4 BILLION 90 MILLION WERE WITHDRAWN. BUT ON SEPTEMBER 13 WE SAW THAT ONE BILLION 900 MILLION OF THIS HAD RETURNED. A NEGATIVE EFFECT IN ADDITION TO THESE EMERGED WITH THE CREATION OF INDECISION AMONG THE DIRECTORS OF THE STATE AND PRIVATE SECTORS. INVESTMENTS STOPPED. TURKEY'S ECONOMY IS LARGE ENOUGH NOT TO BE INFLUENCED IN LARGE MEASURE BY THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY CYPRUS. THEREFORE, UNCLASSIFIED

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THERE IS NO SITUATION TO CAUSE MUCH ANXIETY BECAUSE OF CYPRUS."

D. SETTLEMENT OF TURKS IN CYPRUS: (WHEN ASKED WHETHER CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO SETTLING MAINLAND TURKS IN CYPRUS) "THERE ARE EFFORTS TO GET TURKS WHO HAVE LEFT CYPRUS TO COME BACK. THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS ARE WORKING ON THIS."
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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Subject: COMMENTS ON CYPRUS BY PRIMIN ECEVIT SUMMARY: IN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED HERE SEPTEMBER 23, PRIMIN
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To: STATE
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